

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1887, legislation that overwhelmingly passed the House to ban interstate commerce in videos depicting acts of cruelty against animals. Specifically, this legislation would ban the interstate shipment of videos that record women, often wearing stiletto heeled shoes, slowly crushing live animals to death. Animal victims include hamsters, kittens, puppies, and even monkeys. Viewers purchase these videos for \$15 to \$300 and apparently derive some sexual gratification from watching these horrifying act of animal cruelty.

The Humane Society of the United States, which brought this issue to the attention of law enforcement agencies, has discovered that there are more than 2,000 video titles that include crushing. One such business in California has labeled itself Steponit.

I really have never heard of more bizarre, more perverse, and more sickening acts than this. This goes way beyond the bounds of even of our most wild imaginations.

The people in this industry should face serious penalties for their sick acts of cruelty. Fines and jail time are appropriate societal responses.

State anti-cruelty statutes are not adequate in addressing this problem. It has been difficult for enforcement agents to determine when the practice occurred, where it occurred, and who has been involved, since feet and the crushing of the animals are the only images on the video.

Here is a case where a restriction on interstate commerce in these products—in the age of the Internet, which facilitates this trade—is absolutely necessary. We have to stop the purveyors of this filth, indecency and cruelty.

This is not the harmless act of few people out of the mainstream. This is an extreme antisocial act, where innocent animals are harmed for the profits of producers and the mere sexual gratification of viewers.

In addition to the harm that the animals endure, there is an additional reason to crack down on this industry. There is a well-established link between acts of violence against animals and later acts of violence perpetrated against people. People sometimes rehearse their violence on animals before turning their violent intentions against people. The FBI and other law enforcement agencies have long recognized this linkage.

What sort of message do we send to children to allow these videos to be commercially traded and then viewed? It has to be desensitizing for children and adults to see these destructive images. There surely is a major impact on society when people lose their empathy

and express their violent impulses on a larger social stage.

Mr. President, H.R. 1887 passed the House by an overwhelming vote of 372 to 42. I understand that it is currently being held at the desk. It is my hope that Senate will stop this industry in its tracks by passing this legislation.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise in support of H.R. 1887, a bill by Representative GALLEGLY which would prohibit, and set penalties for, knowingly creating, selling, or possessing a depiction of animal cruelty with the intention of placing that depiction in interstate or foreign commerce for commercial gain.

I would first like to thank the advocacy groups and individuals who testified at the House Subcommittee on Crime hearing and helped publicize the need for legislation to combat this form of animal cruelty. I would also like to thank Senator HATCH, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for his help in the passage of H.R. 1887.

I recently was informed by Representative GALLEGLY of a growing problem in California involving "crush" videos. Much of the material graphically features women stepping on and killing a variety of small animals. The animals are bound to the floor or other materials and are slowly tortured and crushed. When this deplorable practice came to light, Representative GALLEGLY introduced H.R. 1887, which targets the market for these disturbing videos.

While the acts of animal cruelty featured in these videos may violate many state animal cruelty laws, they can be difficult to prosecute. For example, prosecutors often cannot prove the date when the acts were performed or the identity of the individual committing the act of cruelty because the person's face is concealed or not filmed.

The purpose of H.R. 1887 is to prohibit individuals from profiting from videos depicting animal cruelty if the act depicted is illegal under federal or state law. This bill provides federal law-enforcement officials with a tool to prosecute the individuals making profits from these videos, which can be sold via the Internet and through catalogs for \$30 to \$100 a piece. Eliminating the videos' commercial incentive will hopefully stem the creation of "crush" videos.

This bill is important because many studies have shown that abusing animals is often a precursor for committing violence against other people. H.R. 1887 may not solve that problem, but it will at least eliminate the market for a truly reprehensible product.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1887) was read the third time and passed.

#### NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar No. 413, S. Res. 216.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 216) designating the Month of November 1999 as "National American Indian Heritage Month".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to this resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 216) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 216

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives were the original inhabitants of the land that now constitutes the United States;

Whereas American Indian tribal governments developed the fundamental principles of freedom of speech and separation of powers that form the foundation of the United States Government;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have traditionally exhibited a respect for the finiteness of natural resources through a reverence for the earth;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have served with valor in all of America's wars beginning with the Revolutionary War through the conflict in the Persian Gulf, and often the percentage of American Indians who served exceeded significantly the percentage of American Indians in the population of the United States as a whole;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives deserve to be recognized for their individual contributions to the United States as local and national leaders, artists, athletes, and scholars;

Whereas this recognition will encourage self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness in American Indians and Alaska Natives of all ages; and

Whereas November is a time when many Americans commemorate a special time in the history of the United States when American Indians and English settlers celebrated the bounty of their harvest and the promise of new kinships: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates November 1999 as "National American Indian Heritage Month" and requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government and State and local

governments, interested groups and organizations, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

#### AMENDING THE STATUTORY DAMAGES PROVISIONS OF TITLE 17, UNITED STATES CODE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3456.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3456) to amend statutory damages provisions of title 17, United States Code.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3456) was read the third time and passed.

#### HONORING JOSEPH JEFFERSON "SHOELESS JOE" JACKSON

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 134 and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 134) expressing the sense of the Senate that Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson should be appropriately honored for his outstanding baseball accomplishments.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I am very pleased that the Senate has given its approval to Senate Resolution 134. With passage of this resolution, which I introduced earlier this year with Senators THURMOND and HOLLINGS, the Senate has gone on record to right a wrong perpetrated against one of the greatest American baseball players of all time—Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson. And I want to commend Senators THURMOND and HOLLINGS for their good work on this.

"Shoeless Joe" has been an inspiration to baseball players and fans for decades. Even the legendary Babe Ruth was said to have copied Jackson's swing. I was touched by Jackson's story through the movie "Field of Dreams," which recounted his story. The movie was filmed in Dyersville, Iowa. Thousands of Iowans, young and old alike, have come to embrace

"Shoeless Joe." In fact, there is an annual Shoeless Joe Jackson celebration and celebrity baseball game in Dyersville. This year it was attended by a cast of baseball greats, including Bob Feller.

Jackson's career statistics and accomplishments throughout his thirteen years in professional baseball clearly earn him a place as one of baseball's all-time greats.

His career batting average of .356 is the third highest of all time. In addition, Jackson was one of only seven Major League Baseball players to top the coveted mark of a .400 batting average for a season. Despite all this, in 1920 "Shoeless Joe" Jackson was banned from the game of baseball, the game he loved. He was banned from Major League baseball for allegedly taking part in a conspiracy to throw the 1919 World Series, in what has become known as the "Black Sox" scandal.

While "Shoeless Joe" did admit that he received \$5,000 from his roommate, Lefty Williams, to participate in the fix, evidence suggests that Jackson did everything in his power to stop the fix from going through. He twice tried to give the money back. He offered to sit out the World Series in order to avoid any appearance of impropriety. And, he tried to inform White Sox owner Charles Comiskey of the fix. All of these efforts fell on deaf ears.

Perhaps the most convincing evidence of Jackson's withdrawal from the conspiracy was his performance on the field during the series. During the 1919 World Series—which he was accused of conspiring to fix—"Shoeless Joe" Jackson's batting average was .375, the highest of any player from either team. He had twelve hits, a World Series record. He led his team in runs scored and runs batted in. And, he hit the only home run of the series. On defense, Jackson committed no errors and had no questionable plays in thirty chances.

When criminal charges were brought against Jackson in trial, the jury found him "not guilty." White Sox owner Charles Comiskey and several sportswriters testified that they saw no indication that Jackson did anything to indicate he was trying to throw the series. But, when the issue came before the newly-formed Major League Baseball Commissioner's office, Commissioner Judge Kenesaw "Mountain" Landis found Jackson guilty of taking part in the fix, and he was banned for life from playing baseball. The Commissioner's office never conducted an investigation and never held a hearing, thus denying "Shoeless Joe" Jackson due process.

Major League Baseball now has the opportunity to correct a great injustice. I have written to Commissioner Bud Selig urging him to take a new look at this case. I was very pleased

when the Commissioner responded to my inquiry by saying he is giving the case a fair and objective review.

Restoring "Shoeless Joe" Jackson's eligibility for the Hall of Fame would benefit Major League Baseball, baseball fans, and all Americans who appreciate a sense of fair play.

The resolution we passed today states that Major League Baseball should honor Jackson's accomplishments appropriately. I believe Jackson should be inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame.

If that is to happen, Jackson must first be cleared for consideration by the Hall of Fame Veterans Committee, which will stand as the jury which decides whether Jackson's accomplishments during his playing career are worthy of recognition in the Hall of Fame.

Mr. President, we are involved in many important issues. Clearly, this matter will not and should not take up the same amount of time this body devotes to critical issues like health care, education, or national defense. But, restoring the good name and reputation of a single American is important. This resolution has given us the opportunity to right an old wrong. It has given us the opportunity to honor one of the all-time great players of America's pastime, "Shoeless Joe" Jackson.

I thank my colleagues for supporting this resolution.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 2800

(Purpose: To amend certain findings of the Resolution)

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, Senator THURMOND has a substitute at the desk, and I ask for its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS], for Mr. THURMOND, proposes an amendment number 2800.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT "SHOELESS JOE" JACKSON SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED FOR HIS BASEBALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) In 1919, the infamous "Black Sox" scandal erupted when an employee of a New York gambler allegedly bribed 8 players of the Chicago White Sox, including Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson, to throw the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds.

(2) In 1921, a criminal court acquitted "Shoeless Joe" Jackson of charges brought against him as a consequence of his participation in the 1919 World Series.

(3) Despite the acquittal, Commissioner Landis banned "Shoeless Joe" Jackson from playing Major League Baseball for life without conducting a hearing, receiving evidence of Jackson's alleged activities, or giving Mr. Jackson a forum to rebut the allegations, issuing a summary punishment that fell far short of due process standards.